



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, DC 20310

### 2006 Earth Day Message

We remain a Nation at war, yet we must prepare for future challenges in an era of uncertainty and unpredictability. To meet these challenges, we are transforming how we fight, how we train, and how we do business. Fundamental to our success in transforming the Army is the concept of sustainability which provides a systems approach to improve both effectiveness and efficiency over the long-term.

*The Army Strategy for the Environment* provides the vision to guide the Army toward increased sustainability -- focusing on our mission, the environment, and our community.

To achieve mission success, Soldiers today and for generations to come need the right resources. Paramount among them is the availability and quality of natural assets that provide effective training areas and support healthy communities in which to live and work. Every day our Soldiers use these assets to remain ready to defend the Nation and it is our responsibility to protect our environment. Therefore, it is vital that we continue to implement innovative policies and practices that will protect and preserve our natural resources for future generations.

The Army is proud to join with the Nation in celebrating the 36th anniversary of Earth Day on 22 April. Our Earth Day theme, "Sustaining the Environment for a Secure Future," reflects our view that this is a critical responsibility we all share. Every day ask yourself how you can improve operations while meeting today's needs and anticipating tomorrow's challenges.

Together, we will Sustain the Mission and Secure the Future!

Peter J. Schoomaker  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

Francis J. Harvey  
Secretary of the Army